

NO
DISSATISFACTION
WHEN
HUDSON'S SOAP
IS USED.
AFINE POWDER— $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. PACKETS.
IT QUICKLY DRIVES THE DIRT AWAY,
BUT
WON'T WEAR OUT THE
CLOTHES!

LINEN
LASTS
LONGER
WHEN REGULARLY WASHED WITH
HUDSON'S
—IS DELIGHTFULLY SWEET, WHOLESOME,
LILY-WHITE, AND FRESH AS SEA BREEZE
AND WILL KEEP A GOOD COLOUR.

SOAK
YOUR
CLOTHES
WITH
HUDSON'S,
AND THE DIRT WILL SLIP OUT WITH ABOUT
HALF THE USUAL LABOUR.

HUDSON'S
FOR WASHING
HUDSON'S
FOR WASHING
HUDSON'S
FOR WASHING
AFINE POWDER— $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. PACKETS.

AT A VERY TRIFLING COST
YOUR BREAKFAST, DINNER, AND
TEA SERVICES CAN BE SPEEDILY
AND THOROUGHLY WASHED
WITH
HUDSON'S SOAP
AFINE POWDER— $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. PACKETS.

posed to every inducement except her own. Happily, however, there is not the slightest disposition on the part of the Government to give way in this or in any other instance in which the territorial ambition of other European Powers is opposed to the principle of free trade and fair play all round in China. Since Mr. Balfour stated the policy the Government the country has heard the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the same subject. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is by no means mealy-mouthed; on the contrary, he has a reputation for plain-speaking which is, at times, of very real service to his party and his country. Speaking at Swansea, on Monday last, he enforced Mr. Balfour's statement by saying that we do not regard China as a place for conquest or territorial acquisition by any Power, but as an open door for the commerce of the world, and that the Government "are absolutely determined, at whatever cost, even if necessary at the cost of war," to keep this door open. That is plain-speaking enough; though not a bit too plain for the requirements of the case. Mr. Balfour and Sir Michael Hicks-Beach were followed, on Tuesday, by Mr. Chamberlain at Liverpool. The Colonial Secretary laid significant stress upon the maintenance of open markets, "even where that involves taking up a very firm attitude." Here, then, we have explicit declarations by three of the strongest Ministers in the Cabinet which are absolutely identical in their tone. From these declarations it is clear that the whispers of internal division which have been put about are sheer nonsense. There are no internal dissensions within the Cabinet. But we go further, and will say that there is no internal dissension within the whole country. Within the past few days Lord Kimberley, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, and Mr. Asquith have all publicly associated themselves with the policy expressed by Mr. Balfour. In short, the nation stands absolutely united, as it ought to stand, on a question of national and imperial importance. The effect of the unanimity will be twofold. In the first place, it will enormously strengthen the hands of the Government to take whatever steps the situation may require; and, secondly, it will convince foreign Powers that the British Government is in earnest. There is a disposition abroad to regard the British mastiff as a quadruped whose bark is worse than his bite. That is a delusion of which, in the interests of peace, they had better divest themselves as speedily as possible. And nothing will assist that process more effectually than the knowledge that in this matter the British Government and the British nation stand absolutely united.

LONDON COUNTY COUNCIL.
BETNAL GREEN, S.W.—Mr. Costello, from Chelsea, joins Mr. Branch (R.), and will be opposed by Mr. H. H. Finch.
BRISTON.—Mr. Barclay Howard (R.) leaves N. Lambeth, and stands with Rev. J. W. Horsley against Messrs. Haydon and Jones (U.).
CLAPHAM.—Messrs. H. Gosling and D. Martineau (R.'s) are to oppose Col. Rotton and Mr. Corbett (U.'s).
FINABURY, E.—Mr. W. W. Grantham and Mr. M. Smith (U.'s) have been selected.
GROVE WICK.—Lord Skelmersdale and Mr. W. E. Ball (U.'s) have been adopted in place of Messrs. Gooding and Banning, who retire. R. candidates, Messrs. Jackson and Peppercorn.
HAGGEBURY.—Messrs. S. Boulton and G. F. Stallard (U.'s) stand against Lord Monkswell and Mr. Shaw-Lefevre (U.).
HOLBORN.—Sir J. D. Poynder, M.P., will stand with Mr. J. F. Remnant (U.). Ald. Hoare opposes.
ISLINGTON, W.—Messrs. G. J. Chatterton and D. H. Sykes will run against Messrs. W. Goodman and G. H. Radford (R.'s).
LAMBETH, N.—Mr. F. Smith (R.) stands vice Mr. Barclay Howard, who goes to Brixton. Col. Ford (R.) stands again, and the Unionists are Messrs. R. and C. Ansell.
PADDOINGTON, N.—Mr. Urquhart and Mr. H. P. Harris (U.'s) will be opposed by Mr. W. Stevenson, sec. of the Builders' Labourers' Union, and Mr. A. White, a local socialist (R.'s).
ST. GEORGE'S (the Hanover sq.).—Mr. E. C. Ambrose will stand again with Hon. H. de Laigue (U.).
ST. PANCRAZ, E.—Mr. A. F. Calvert and Mr. E. W. Sinclair Cox (U.'s), and Mr. N. Robinson and Mr. F. Purchase (R.'s) will stand.
ST. PANCRAZ, S.—Constitutional between parties. Sir Edgar G. B. and Sir J. Barton (R.) will be unopposed.
ST. PANCRAZ, W.—Mr. G. Barham and Lord Elcho (U.'s) stand against Lord Carrington and Dr. Colline (R.'s).
WOOLWICH.—Dr. Lindow and Mr. D. Marsh will fight against Col. Hughes and Mr. Penfold (U.'s).

Unionists have arranged to hold 3 meetings:—At Queen's Hall, on Feb. 14, when Lord Farquhar presides, and the Duke of Devonshire is to be the principal speaker; at the Edinburgh Castle Hall, in the last week of February, when Lord Farquhar presides, and Mr. Balfour is to speak; and at the Surrey Theatre on March 1, when Lord Llangattock is to preside, and Mr. Chamberlain to speak. To-morrow the council of the Constitutional Union will meet at the Constitutional Club, when the report of the committee, dealing with the approaching elections, will be moved by Lord Hardwicke and seconded by Lord Onslow. It will also be supported by Lord Farquhar.

VOLUNTEERS—YESTERDAY.
The sergeants of the 1st City of London Artillery held their dinner at Stone's Restaurant, Ludgate-chill, Co. Sergt.-maj. Bachelot presiding, with Co. Sergt.-maj. Lees as vice-chairman, supported by the commanding officer, Col. Hon. V.D., and other officers. An excellent musical programme was rendered, to which Mr. Hall, Sergt.-Vee, and Mr. Bachelot contributed. The arrangements were carried out by Sergt. Brown, the hon. sec. of the association. At the 2nd Kent Artillery gave their annual ball.

The sergeants of the 19th Middlesex Rifles announce that their annual concert will take place on Wednesday at the headquarters in

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Are there really no Russia shows no backing-down in the seem that the Lie at least met upon they cannot put or other such to be right. Now a moment that one to withdraw would be commit the country if it of the kind, I fight. I doubt a diversion ag can hardly believ for that tremend

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TALK OF THE PEOPLE.

Are we really near to war? Perhaps, Russia shows no signs whatever of backing down in China, and it would seem that the Lion and the Bear have at last met upon a path so narrow that they cannot turn back or there will be a fight. Now, I don't believe for a moment that England will be the one to withdraw. Our statement would be committing a crime against the country if they advised anything of the kind. I doubt it. Her only chance is a diversion against India, and one can hardly believe that she is prepared for that tremendous move as yet.

The order for the Japanese Fleet to proceed to China begins to look like business. That there is a working alliance between Japan and this country cannot, I think, be doubted, though it is likely enough to be of a rather informal character. At any rate it is clear that Japan is not deterred as England is being turned into the China front, being turned into the China front, being turned into the China front.

Lord Wolsey's recent speech on the Army strikes me as being one of the most mischievous I ever read. With all due respect to the Commander-in-Chief, the statement that we could not afford to have a complete re-organization of the Army is absolutely untrue. It is a statement that should have been made by a man who knows something about the subject. Why, the want of horses alone is sufficient to knock such a notion on the head.

But more than all one quarrel with the moment Lord Wolsey has selected for his eulogy on the Army. The Government are just about to propose large augmentations which no one knows better than Lord Wolsey are absolutely unnecessary. Anybody who knows anything about practical politics knows how important it is that they should have a strong body of public opinion behind them, and now Lord Wolsey comes forward to throw as much cold water on the scheme as he knows how to. He is not a man who does one's duty, but when he does one's duty he does it well. The Unionist victory in Dublin is remarkable, because the new member is a strong Protestant, while the constituency contained a quite unusual proportion of Roman Catholic Unionists who were supposed to have quailed at supporting him. The result shows that they are not so much more ignorant than the Government should be supported at this very critical juncture of affairs that religious odium should be gratified. Apart from this it is a good win since the Nationalists made common cause in this fight, and the Unionists were unable to capture the seat in former days when the Irish parties were united.

What has come over Sir William Harcourt? He is not content to be a strong Protestant, while the constituency contained a quite unusual proportion of Roman Catholic Unionists who were supposed to have quailed at supporting him. The result shows that they are not so much more ignorant than the Government should be supported at this very critical juncture of affairs that religious odium should be gratified. Apart from this it is a good win since the Nationalists made common cause in this fight, and the Unionists were unable to capture the seat in former days when the Irish parties were united.

How far the idea that foreign competition in the insurance trade is a danger to the nation may be seen from the news which comes from the United States. The Central London Under-grounds Railway has placed an order for thirty-two locomotives with the General Electric Company of America. Now, no one supposes that the English company would give such an order to an American firm out of a sentimental wish to encourage the manufacturers of the United States. It is the effect of the suicidal engineering war.

Unless I am very much mistaken, the French Government are going to get themselves into a mess over the prosecution of Zola. He is not at all the sort of man who can be condemned in secret. Depend upon it that he will manage to let the whole world know the evidence which he may be, upon which he is condemned, and will take good care to raise the whole of the Oreyfax and Esterhazy trials at his own. That is an agreeable prospect for the authorities, whose very existence, if all tales be true, depends upon ransacking the whole story absolutely dark.

If anybody is in want of a really good election agent, suggest that he should apply to O. P. Reed. No doubt his terms would be high, but, whatever they were, he would be worth the money. His last device in his own contest is really a stroke of genius. Nobody else, I am sure, would have thought of suddenly adding 300 votes to the electoral roll. The election is going on, "for services during the Jameson raid." The American method of "stuffing" the ballot-box and frightening undesirable voters away with revolvers is poor indeed compared to this adding voters as you want them.

A man about 40 fell yesterday from the ferry boat Gordon into the Thames at Woolwich, and was drowned. David Kay, 30, platerayer on the G.N.R., while attempting to cross the metals near New Southgate Station, was knocked down and run over by a train that was being shunted. He died yesterday. May Stileman presented a purse of gold on behalf of the subscribers to ex-Sergt. G. Reed, who for nearly 12 years was in charge of the Ely District, under the E. Sussex Constabulary, and who has retired on a pension after 25 years' service.

While hunting with Lord Fitzharding's hounds yesterday, 3 well-known members of the hunt, Mr. Win. Terhorne, Mr. Matthews, and Mr. Fry, were thrown in taking a hedge, and their horses bolted. A man named Butler tried to stop the horses, and caught the bridle of one of them, when the animal swerved round, threw Butler to the ground, and kicked him in the head, death being instantaneous.

GREAT FIRE IN THE CITY LAST NIGHT

EXTENSIVE DAMAGE.

A fire which threatened to rival the great conflagration of a few weeks ago broke out just before midnight last night, close to the scene of the Aldgate-outbreak. About 5 minutes before 12 P.M. Bishop (473 City) noticed smoke issuing from one of the upper windows of a warehouse in London Wall, said to be occupied by the Garlick Co., manufacturers of silk stuffs for dusters and similar purposes. With commendable celerity the constable gave the alarm at the nearest station, and within a few minutes a large force of firemen were on the spot. The recent disaster close by perhaps stimulated the authorities to unusual exertions; at any rate, before 12.30 some 18 engines—manual and steamers—were at work, with extension ladders and appliances of all kinds. A plentiful supply of water was immediately obtainable, and the firemen, running up the ladders from the opposite side of the street, and attacking the fire in the house, were able to master it. The fire appears to have broken out on the second or third storey, and burned upwards, with the result that the upper floors were almost burned out, while the lower floors were comparatively undamaged. The fire caused considerable damage to the building, and the broken glass which fell out in all directions made the work of the firemen particularly dangerous. By 1.45 all danger of the fire spreading seemed to be at an end, and the officers in charge of the firemen were satisfied with the result. A considerable portion of the firemen's force was kept on duty for the night, and the damage will be very largely covered by insurance, though exact details as to the offices which were likely to be the heaviest sufferers were not at the moment obtainable.

LATEST ELECTRIC FLASHES.

HOME.
George Fry, milkman, was found drowned in a pond at Kingston Hill. A man named Hirst was killed by foul air in a well at Mexborough. Mr. A. J. Vinnal, postmaster at Leeds, has resigned.

There are 25 cases of small-pox in Middlesex General Hospital. James Lord, 75, High Hall of Todmorden, died as the result of a fall. Mr. A. Mackenzie, Highland Clan historian, died at Inverness.

German barque Mimi, from Costa Rica, put to Queenstown. Captain dead of scurvy. All hands ill, with exception of Mrs. Gordon, who died suddenly. Husband, seeing body, fell dead.

Found drowned was the verdict on Wm. Boyes, 55, groom, found in the Avon, near Leamington. Thomas Keene was remanded at Wednesday charged with stealing what was at the Royal Hotel.

The Bristol magistrates sent a man named Roberts for a month for stealing clothes belonging to his son. Wm. Millett, shunter, was run over and killed on the Midland Railway at Sheffield.

Thomas Jarvis, 3, played with his bicycle on a footpath. Dean Liddell was buried in Christ Church, Oxford. Sir H. Byng represented the Queen.

Five Denominationalists and 4 Independents were returned for Barnsley School Board.

The schools at Heywood are closed in consequence of an epidemic of measles. A lad named Hoyle, 13, was caught by a revolver, and killed. Verdict, accidental death.

The remains of a man, with the head severed from the body, were found near Llanthony, on the Carmarthen branch of L. & N.W.R.

Important coalmining operations will be carried out at Portmouth to test the capabilities of the port in time of war.

Henry James Clarke, alias Brum, was committed for 3 months, at Buxton, for stealing an overcoat from a shop.

The owners of the steam trawler Margaret, of Grimsby, which stranded near Fley in a fog, paid the fishermen who floated her £250 for their services.

A large area of beach at Sandwich has been purchased by Sir W. Pearson, contractor for the Government harbour at Dover, for the purpose of the concrete blocks of which the harbour will be constructed.

At St. John's College, Cambridge, the MacMahon Law Studentship has been awarded to J. E. de Villiers and K. C. MacLaurin, and the Noden Divinity Studentship to G. W. Harding.

For stealing a tin of salmon from a grocer's shop the Sheffield magistrates sent to a truant school a lad named Edwards, whose mother threatened to commit suicide thereat. Another boy, named Fisher, who was associated in the theft, was fined 5s.

FOREIGN.
A new Japanese cruiser, the Chitose, was launched at San Francisco yesterday at the shipbuilding yards of the Union Iron Works.—REUTERS.

A telegram from Djibuti states that the Emperor Menelik is leading a force towards Boromedia, with the object of subjugating the Ras Oube and his following.—CENTRAL NEWS SPECIAL.

According to the Spanish newspapers, a Portuguese coastguard vessel has fired 12 shots at a Spanish fishing smack in Spanish waters near Ayamonte, on the Bay of Cadiz. One of the crew of the Spanish vessel was wounded in the leg.—REUTERS.

The report that the Marquis di Visconti Venosta intended to retire on account of the death of one of his sons proves to have been erroneous. He was announced last night that he had resumed the duties of Italian Foreign Minister to-day.—CENTRAL NEWS SPECIAL.

GREAT NIGHT MARCH.

STRONG MUSTER OF REGULARS AND VOLUNTEERS.

(SPECIAL TO "THE PEOPLE.")
Last night, under the personal direction of Maj.-gen. Trotter, commanding the Home District, assisted by Col. W. H. Mackinnon, Assistant-adjutant-general, and other staff officers, the third night assembly, march, and concentration of metropolitan Volunteers and battalions of Foot Guards in London was held, when many thousands of all arms assembled at specified rendezvous, and marched to various points. The general idea governing the operations was based upon the supposition that an enemy was advancing upon London from the N.E., and the general officer commanding had ordered the London Infantry to various points N. and N.E. of London, the Brigade of Guards being in reserve. Accordingly, various columns (7 in all) were ordered to muster at the respective rendezvous, and be ready to march off at 6.45 p.m., the hour fixed for arriving at their allotted destinations being 8.30 p.m. These night marches were originated by Lord Methuen, the first taking place on Feb. 21, 1895, in the most severe weather experienced for many years, the intense frost rendering the operations anything but agreeable. Upon that occasion 13,527 Foot Guards and Volunteers (7 in all) were ordered to muster at the respective rendezvous, and be ready to march off at 6.45 p.m., the hour fixed for arriving at their allotted destinations being 8.30 p.m. These night marches were originated by Lord Methuen, the first taking place on Feb. 21, 1895, in the most severe weather experienced for many years, the intense frost rendering the operations anything but agreeable. 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"THE PEOPLE" MIXTURE.

The deaths registered last week in 33 great towns of England and Wales corresponded to an annual rate of 20.6 per 1,000 of their aggregate population, which is estimated at 11,218,375 persons in the middle of the year.

In London 2,703 births and 1,382 deaths were registered last week.

Allowing for increase of population, the births were 177 and the deaths 385 below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last 10 years.

The annual death-rate per 1,000 from all causes, which had been 18.2, 27.6, and 23.0 in the preceding 3 weeks, further fell last week to 22.9.

During the 4 weeks ending on the 15th inst. the death-rate averaged 22.9 per 1,000, being 1.3 per 1,000 below the mean rate in the corresponding periods of the 10 years 1888-97.

The deaths attributed directly to influenza numbered 40, having been 15, 29, and 43 in the preceding 3 weeks.

Different forms of violence caused 77 deaths, concerning all but 1 of which inquiries were of the last 10 years.

The Hungarian Parliament was closed this week.

Red hair was first worn by cardinals in the year 1245.

In Hamburg the authorities tax a dog according to its size.

Telegraph wire made of paper is the latest American invention.

An ostrich's egg weighs about 4 lb., equal to 40 hen's eggs.

Doctors are now recommending grapes for strengthening the voice.

The Earl of Crewe is progressing satisfactorily at Crewe Hall, Cheshire.

Charles Rouse, 55, was knocked down by a runaway horse opposite Shoreditch Church and killed.

At present Canada supplies one-fourteenth of the imported food of Great Britain.

It is estimated that of the whole population of the globe about 90,000 die every day.

It is said that rain never falls in the region between the first and second cataracts of the Nile.

Sixty languages are spoken in the empire governed by the Czar of Russia.

The Bideford Bill, imposing certain restrictions on immigration, was passed by the American Senate this week.

A truce has been proclaimed in Basutoland. Letherodi, the paramount chief, had a conference with the rebel Masupha.

A Portsmouth telegram says the royal yacht *Edgar* acts as a dispatch vessel whilst the Queen is at Osborne, was in a fog severely damaged in collision with a tank vessel.

A policeman named Taylor fell from an omnibus in Edgware Road. He was picked up unconscious and taken to St. Mary's Hospital, where his arrival there was found to be fatal.

In the Probate Court, the judge granted leave to prosecute the death of Mr. Edmund Hurst, fourth officer on board the steamship *Aden*, which was wrecked last year off Socotra.

At Bow County Court, an engineer named Warren was awarded £100 damages for the bite of a dog belonging to Messrs. Matthew Shaw and Company, of Millwall, the well-known iron girder makers.

Extensive floods have occurred in Spain, and have caused much destruction of property in Valencia and Catalonia. Villages are reported to be under water, and railway traffic is seriously interrupted.

The Right Hon. A. J. Balfour has accepted an invitation from the governors of the Leys School, Cambridge, to attend a reception at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, on Feb. 3.

At Bow-st., Edward Armada, alias Prescott and Finlay, was committed for extradition to the Argentine Republic charged with forging cheques amounting to £8,800 on the British Bank of South America at Buenos Ayres.

Extraordinary qualities are possessed by the River Tinto, in Spain. It hardens and petrifies the sand of its bed, and if a stone falls in the stream and alights upon another, in a few months the latter becomes a stone.

The members of the Oxford circuit entertained Justice Darling at the Cafe Royal, Regent-st., in celebration of his recent elevation to the bench.

The chair was taken by Mr. Jeff, the leader of the circuit.

Proximity to the constant grinding of her father's piano organ led to meningitis and death in the case of Maria Dizonia, the child of an Italian organ grinder. At the inquest on the child a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence was returned.

The Quakers in Great Britain only amount to about 18,000, and could all be contained in the Agricultural Hall at Islington. They are represented in the House of Commons by 8 members.

This is a very large representation as compared with other denominations.

The French Government has just purchased the large mansion to the east of Albert Gate which has been occupied as the French Embassy for nearly 50 years, the price paid being £25,000. The ground rent remains the property of the Crown of Great Britain.

repelling Hackett in spite of his threats.

Mr. Rhodes has arrived at Cape Town.

There have been 30 Ministries during the present century.

There are 250 glaciers in the Alps, and the longest is 15 miles in length.

The Abyssinian Mission has arrived at Constantinople from Odessa.

Princess Ferdinand of Bulgaria has given birth to a princess.

The American Ambassador accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Hay has left London for Egypt.

At Lyons a means literally "the best of bulls with the best of furniture."

Dr. Edward Cooke has been appointed a commissioner in lunacy in the room of the late Dr. John Wallis.

Eight deaths from cancer occur in London streets daily through negligence.

A fine specimen of the tortoiseshell butterfly has been caught in the grounds manager's office of the N. London Ry. at Poplar.

In some parts of Lincolnshire primrose are in bloom in the open garden, and occasionally roses may also be seen blooming in the open air.

The rebels captured at Meab, where the Sultan's army gained a decisive victory, accuse the Moorish Government of acting treacherously.

At Mrs. Dalby, who is separated from her husband, committed suicide by hanging herself at Leeds. A flat iron was tied to each of her feet.

Fourteen thousand operatives employed in the cotton mill at Bedford and Bedfordshire have come out on strike in support of the reduction in wages.

The Privy Council have forwarded the draft of the final scheme for the incorporation of Hemel Hempstead, which, it is expected, will come into operation about April next.

The King of the Belgians accepted the resignation of the Minister of Justice, and has provisionally placed that department in the charge of the Minister of Agriculture.

At the Guildhall, Hirsch Dräsen was sentenced to 6 months' hard labour for a burglary at the Exchange Buildings, dealing property to the value of £43 10s.

There is no foundation for the recent alarmist newspaper reports regarding the health of Cardinal Vaughan, who is at present staying at Grasse.

The Light Railway Commissioners have issued a draft order for the construction of a light railway from Postland, Lincolnshire, to Peckirk, Northants.

The arrangement for a joint loan from the Ottoman Bank, and the Deutsche Bank to the Turkish Government has received the Sultan's sanction.

The Budget Committee of the French Chamber have agreed to the principle of the new contract for a Transatlantic mail service between Havre and New York.

Bread riot and strike at Ancona in connection with the strike of bakers there. The offices of a corn dealer were wrecked and partly burned. Fifty arrests have been made.

Electric tramways and launches have been installed in the Bazar de la Charité, Paris, on Wednesday, visited by 2,000 persons.

Twice as many visitors to the number of about 1,200, although the applications are nearly always far more numerous.

A resolution was carried in Dublin at a meeting of Dillonite M.P.s, calling upon Irishmen of all shades of opinion to join in commemorating the centenary of the death of the Duke of Wellington.

The Rev. E. W. Wilson, curate of St. Luke's, Millwall, was elected at the meeting of the guardians of the City of London Union as chaplain to the infirmary at a salary of £200 per annum.

The Admiralty Court awarded the London tug *Nubia* £300 for salvage services rendered to the steamer *Gulf of Akaba*, the services consisting of getting the steamer off the Girdler Sand, in the Thames estuary.

London Works Committee has been asked for £1 15s. a "voluntary rate" of 4d. in the £ on its waterworks at Roundhay, in support of the Roundhay Church schools. It has declined to pay the money.

Mr. Henry George Smallman, the newly-elected alderman of the ward of Chelsea, was this week admitted with the usual formalities and sworn in as an alderman and magistrate for the City.

In the manufacture of knives the division of labour has been carried to such an extent that one hand is made by 70 different artificers from the moment the blade is forged until the instrument is finished and ready for the market.

At North Walsham Station, while an engineer named William Brett was repairing a tank engine for the carriage of acid for the manufacture of artificial manure, an explosion took place. The tank was blown to pieces, and Brett was terribly injured.

This week the unusual sight of a flock of seagulls was observed at Kew Bridge. They were also seen by many at Hampton Bridge.

This is the first time seagulls have been seen so far up the river for several years.

A ship like the *Magnificent* costs £1,000,000. The fabric weighs 6,000 tons; there are 3,000 tons of iron in the engines weigh about 1,300 tons.

Some of the armour-plates which skirt certain parts of the ship for protective purposes cost as much as £2,000 apiece.

James William Hobbs, the "Liberator" convict, who was released by order of the Home Secretary, has arrived at Norbury Hall, Streatham, his residence for many years before the trial and since occupied by his family. The carriage of his family met him at the railway station.

which may be imagined. The club has had to be closed.

The British aristocracy includes 14,000 persons.

There are over 2,000 first-class racehorses in this country.

Alexandria possesses the largest artificial harbour in the world.

A very fine badger, weighing over 40 lb., was killed at Hawk's Hill, Dorset.

The London Stock Exchange was established in 1700. It now has 3,500 members.

More people speak English than Russian, French, and German put together.

Knives, when intended for sale in India, are usually made with rings in the handles. The natives carry them tied to their girdles.

Messrs. Gilbert, Son, and Page's poultry and game farm at Boydon, Hertfordshire, was raided by foxes, which killed 120 birds, while 50 others were evidently having been attacked.

Augustus Cargill Blaxter, 45, cooper, was found guilty at North London Sessions on an indictment charging him with stealing 500 lb. of soap from the Bow Depot of the Midland Ry. Co. 3 months' hard labour.

The case against Herr Johannes Trojan, editor of the "Kaddarsch" (the Berlin "Punch"), is to come off in the Criminal Court on the 25th of this month.

At the Guildhall, London, Fletcher-Cooke, a well-known lawyer, was committed for trial charged with misappropriating American bonds of the value of £2,700, the property of his employers.

The postal savings banks of Great Britain had £2,000,000 at the end of last year, and £2,000,000 at the end of the year 1897. The deposits numbered 6,822,035, and over one-half of them were made by married women, widows, and children.

Lemons are used for soap in many countries where they grow. When the men and women of the East use the juice of a lemon over their bodies in water until they are clean.

Lord Wolsey will preside at the reading of the "Christmas Carol" which Sir Squire Hancock will read at the St. James's Theatre on the 25th inst. at 8 o'clock.

The London District of the Soldiers and Sailors Families' Association.

William Harvey died at South Shields from a bullet wound supposed to be self-inflicted. About 8 years ago he was sentenced to 10 years' penal servitude for the murder of a woman, who was his sister.

The Luman system can endure heat of 212 deg., the boiling point of water, because the skin is a bad conductor, and because the perspiration cools the body. It has been tried without injury at a heat of 300 degs. for several minutes.

The Congregational denomination has lost a veteran minister in the person of the Rev. Thomas Mann, of Trowbridge, who has died at the advanced age of 81.

Mr. Michael Milne of Berlin was received by the Emperor Francis Joseph in Vienna. He wore the uniform of the Commander-in-Chief in Serbia, to which post his son has just named him.

The synopsis, a water insect, is provided with a notch in the shape of the anchor used by the ship. By means of this peculiar device the insect holds itself firmly in any desired spot.

A protest has been lodged by Great Britain against the application of the Convention of Berlin for the construction of a branch of the Anatolian railway, connecting with the British Smyrna railway at Dineir.

The Welsh singer Mr. Pfrangon Davies has invented a new verb, "to cantillate," which signifies further development of the imitation to pianoforte accompaniment made popular by many concert and drawing-room performers.

Our senses do not fall asleep simultaneously. The eyelids are first affected, and shut out light; next follows the sense of touch, and the last-named being the lightest sleeper and most easily aroused.

Although Mr. Goehnen is known among his friends as "The Old Man of the Sea," by reason of his office as First Lord of the Admiralty, he is by no means a seaman.

He was not a sailor, but the longest way by land shorter in the end than a very small sea trip.

Herr Jancke, formerly secretary to the local authorities at Paganini, in German East Africa, was tried by the Berlin Disiplinary Court for unlawfully detaining a prisoner of war.

He was condemned to be dismissed and to pay the costs of the trial.

At a meeting of postmen at the Pitt's Head, Old Bailey, a resolution was unanimously carried expressing the sympathy of those present with Mr. Wilson in his dismissal, and pledging themselves to use their utmost endeavours to secure his reinstatement.

Nearly all the members of the royal family have their photograph albums, amongst the most elaborate of these being those possessed by the Empress Frederick of Germany, Princess Beatrice, and Princess Louise (Marionettes of Rome).

But perhaps the most interesting of the royal albums is one belonging to the Queen.

Mr. Hubert Herkimer, it is said, aspires, like Michael Angelo, to do everything. He paints in oil and water, etches, writes plays, composes music, is stage-mechanic as well as scene-painter, carver, and is an architect.

For all the varieties of his artistic work separate rooms are arranged and fitted up to serve the special purpose for which they are designed.

One of the duties of the Lord Chamberlain on the occasion of a State concert is as follows:—The member of the royal family representing the royal family occupies the centre chair on a raised dais, at the end of the room facing the orchestra. Immediately after he is seated the Lord Chamberlain, bowing very solemnly, approaches, kneels down, and gently takes the right foot of the royal lady, and then the royal lady places it on a crimson-and-gold footstool. Then the Lord Chamberlain retires.

Madame Albani is a Canadian; her real name was La Jeunesse (she is now the wife of Mr. Gye), and she adopted the name of Albani from her birthplace, Albani, in the Province of Quebec.

Albani, a subject of her Majesty, being an Australian by birth. She sang in London at first under her real name of Mrs. Armstrong, but was advised to adopt a more foreign-sounding name, and, following the example of Albani, she called herself Albani.

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parties accepted his lordship's suggestion that the case be withdrawn.

Street organs are Mrs. Ormiston Chant's pet aversion.

The Duke of Westminster receives over 200 begging letters a day.

The King of Siam has 500 brothers and sisters.

Of the 11,000 breweries in the world, 20,000 are in Germany.

The Empress of Germany never rides anything but a brown horse.

A doctor says that the growth of children takes place entirely when they are asleep.

In Italy there are more theatres in proportion to population than in any other country.

A London banking firm is negotiating with the Porte for a loan of £1,500,000 at 4 per cent. interest.

Miss Passon, of Exeter, has been killed through colliding with a cart while riding her bicycle at Barnstow.

The establishment of nursing sisterhoods in her husband's kingdom is the hobby of the doctor-Queen of Portugal.

The West India troops at Cape Coast are preparing to proceed to Comacina. Another company is expected.

The bicycle marriage has evidently had its day, and the very latest thing is for the party to go to church by electric car.

During 1895 the British Government called in £2,400,000 worth of light gold coin, and rehabilitated it at a cost of £23,000.

An intimation has been conveyed to the Armenian Patriarchate from Yildiz Kiosk that its demands will shortly be complied with.

Lord Bute will address a meeting in Birmingham Town Hall on March 2 on the foreign policy of the Government.

A Brighton railway employee named William Rapson was knocked down and killed by the Plumpton special train on the Brighton line.

It is estimated that there are now living in different parts of the world about 4,200,000 Jews. Sixty-two thousand, or one in a 100, of the whole number reside in Great Britain.

Princess Beatrice in some ways the most beautiful and graceful of the royal family. Not only is she an admirable skater, but she is also a very fair composer.

It is strange that, since the Union, only one Irishman has filled the post of Chief Secretary for Ireland, and that Irishman was the great Duke of Wellington, who, as Sir A. Wellesley, was Irish Secretary from 1807 to 1809.

The Japanese are now getting used to glass. At first, glass in a railway carriage window had to be smeared with streaks of white paint, to keep passengers from poking their heads through it.

The Queen has accepted from Sir F. Phillips a copy of a handsome volume containing the names and portraits of all the Lord Mayors, Mayors, and provosts presented to her Majesty at Buckingham Palace.

At the Milan of 1897 was received by the Emperor Francis Joseph in Vienna. He wore the uniform of the Commander-in-Chief in Serbia, to which post his son has just named him.

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THE ST. NEOTS TRAGEDY.

REPORTED APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE ST. NEOTS TRAGEDY.

A Huntingdon correspondent, writing last night, says:—Det. Chief Constable Copping and Supt. Freestone, of the Huntingdonshire County Constabulary, and members of the Northamptonshire police, were yesterday engaged in making investigations in and around Kettering with respect to the death, in 1890, of Miss Fanny James.

At the time of her death Miss James was engaged to be married to Walter Horford, the young farmer of Spaldwick, who is now in Cambridge College on a charge of poisoning his cousin, Mrs. Annie Holmes, the only daughter of Mr. Holmes.

On the morning of her death Miss James received a letter, alleged to come from Horford, and as she was dying she cried out, it is said, "Don't let my father hear of this!"

The police have succeeded in finding the dead girl's sister—Mrs. Arnold, who now lives at Henry-st., Kettering, Northampton—and she has described to them as fully as possible exactly what took place on the day Miss James died.

The girl's sufferings, it appears, were terrible. With this fact in their possession, the police are making diligent inquiries of chemists in Northamptonshire and Huntingdonshire with regard to the sale of strychnine in November and December, 1890.

She was subjected to analysis last week the Treasury has been approached by the authorities for permission to exhume the body.

They have taken these steps in order to ascertain whether any strychnine has been absorbed by any of the organs, and, if so, to procure a full report on the matter.

It is rumoured that an application will be made for the exhumation of Miss James's body, which lies in the Stow Lodge Churchyard—Walter Horford has only been married 10 weeks, and his wife, who is 23, is pregnant with grief.

The Horfords are an old family in the district, the father of the young man, who is 80 years of age, having farmed his present estate for nearly 60 years. Walter Horford is a well-known sportsman in the district, and a keen follower of the royal fairs.

He is a member of the Cambridge and the Oakley packs.

[Other details will be found on p. 6.]

CITY CHANGES.

A number of important changes are likely to take place in the absorption of the Sewers Commission by the Corporation of the City of London.

Among these will be far-reaching reorganizations in connection with the departments of the City Solicitor and the City Comptroller, as well as changes in the personnel of the Guildhall staff.

It is important, however, are the changes contemplated directly concerning the sanitation of the City itself.

It has been felt for some time past that the arrangements for the disposal of the City refuse and dust are not by any means up to date, and that the works at Little's Wharf might well be brought into line with modern ideas.

Just outside the City—notably in Shoreditch—immense strides have been and are watching very keenly the success of the destruction of the boundaries.

The changes caused by the abolition of the Sewers Commission will very probably lead to the adoption of a more general policy in connection with this matter at the Guildhall, and it was rumoured yesterday that the present summer will probably see the undertaking in progress for the destruction of the rubbish similar to those which are succeeding so well outside its boundaries.

HEARTLESS HUSBAND.

Arthur Fisher, 35, Moden-st., Westbourne Park, who was married at Marylebone yesterday with a beautiful wife, Charlotte, Proseditch, who had to be assisted into court and accommodated with a seat, gave her evidence with considerable pain.

On Thursday night her husband took her home, and she was found dead in her bed, with a knife wound in her throat.

He was very aggressive in his manner. Because she said he had taken some of her house linen he pushed her, and she fell. She was paralysed, and unable to stand.

As she lay on the floor he put his hand under her and bumped her on the head, and then she slipped her face, which accounted for her disfigured cheeks.

When he dragged her over she managed to crawl to a chair and get away from him. Being unable to walk she could not get to the police, and it was not until Friday that she was able to come to court.

Her husband had been previously sentenced to 3 months for assaulting her—Prisoned he worked hard, and when he went home he had to cook for himself and his wife too. He added: "I leave her the house and furniture and all the money I have, and go away from her. Three months, and a judicial separation."

Samuel White, 32, was at Kingston yesterday committed for trial on a charge of attempting to assault his sister-in-law, under 16.

A wardmoor for the election of a common councilman for the ward of Cheap, in succession to Ald. Smallman, has been fixed for Thursday.

The candidates are Mr. S. Alderton and Mr. E. Williams.

Dainty Outfit, new hat and underclothes, 50 articles, cash needed, (address) — Mrs. J. H. B. W. Wolcott-st.

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